



COUNCIL AGENDA: 2-4-14
ITEM: 8.1

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Toni J. Taber, CMC
City Clerk

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: 1-30-2014

**SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF URGENCY ORDINANCE AND OTHER ACTIONS TO
CONTROL INVASIVE WILD PIG POPULATION**

RECOMMENDATION

As recommended by the Rules and Open Government Committee on January 29, 2014 and outlined in the attached memo previously submitted by the Rules and Open Government Committee:

- (a) Adopt an urgency ordinance to extend the effectiveness of Ordinance No. 29336 which amends Section 10.32.010 of Chapter 10.32 of Title 10 of the San José Municipal Code to allow persons with duly issued and approved trapping licenses and wild pig depredation permits from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to discharge firearms within the limits of the City under specified circumstances until February 2, 2015, as recommended by staff, to prevent a gap in providing a solution to the wild pig issue within San José and to allow for evaluation of the Urgency Ordinance through full seasonal migration patterns of local wild pig populations;
- (b) Direct staff to monitor complaints of wild pig incidences and record their observations on the effectiveness of the Urgency Ordinance and any challenges that ensue during the coming year;
- (c) Direct staff to continue to engage with stakeholders to encourage the County to consider taking concrete steps to reduce wild pig populations, through methods such as those employed in Monterey and Alameda Counties; and
- (d) Direct staff to bring back to Council a recommendation for permanent ordinance, with input from the appropriate departments including Animal Services and the SJPd, in early December of 2014, so Council may consider it before the expiration of the Urgency Ordinance.



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: Councilmember Johnny Khamis
SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF URGENCY ORDINANCE TO CONTROL INVASIVE WILD PIG POPULATIONS
DATE: January 23, 2014

APPROVED: 

DATE: 01/23/14

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Extend urgency ordinance until February 2, 2015, as recommended by staff, to prevent a gap in providing a solution to the wild pig issue within San Jose and to allow for the evaluation of the Urgency Ordinance through full seasonal migration patterns of local wild pig populations.
2. Direct staff to monitor complaints of wild pig incidences and record their observations on the effectiveness of the Urgency Ordinance and any challenges that ensue during the coming year.
3. Direct staff to continue to engage with stakeholders to encourage the County to consider taking concrete steps to reduce wild pig populations, through methods such as those employed in Monterey and Alameda Counties.
4. Direct staff to bring back to Council a recommendation for a permanent ordinance, with input from the appropriate departments including Animal Services and the SJPd, in early December of 2014, so that the Council may consider it before the expiration of the Urgency Ordinance.

BACKGROUND

On November 5, 2013, the City Council approved an Urgency Ordinance, limited to 90 days, to assist City residents in dealing with the threats to safety, public health, and property that resulted from an influx of wild pigs into residential neighborhoods. The ordinance was approved in response to numerous constituent reports of wild pigs roaming their neighborhoods in large packs, documentation of thousands of dollars in property damage, and concerns over the threats the wild pigs posed to adults and children in San Jose.

Shortly after the Council approved the Urgency Ordinance, activity by large groups of pigs dropped off considerably in the Almaden area, whereas a resurgence of activity was reported in the residential areas adjacent to Metcalf Park in District 2. This differentiation of activity gives us a snap shot of the various established populations, the vast distances in which these pigs can propagate, and the potential threat to residents and the costly impact to residential, commercial, and City park property.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

November 5, 2013

Subject: Urgency Ordinance to Control Invasive Wild Pig Population

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In talking with State Fish and Wildlife staff, both Council and City staff were informed that the State Fish and Wildlife Department is already looking at removing wild pigs from the "game animal" roster and placing them on the "nuisance animal" list, in recognition that they are a destructive, non-native species. Wild pigs not only threaten the safety of our neighborhoods and cause extensive property damage, they also destroy critical habitat that is necessary to the survival of native plant and animal species. Advocates with the Audubon Society have recognized the destructiveness of wild pigs and support the Council's efforts to combat wild pig infestations.

In meeting with City staff, they recommended that the current ordinance be kept in place so that they may have the opportunity to conduct a more complete evaluation of its effectiveness and to determine whether or not any complications arise that might need to be addressed in any prospective permanent ordinance.